

Elderly Woman Killed in Traffic Accident

Press-Herald

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TOM SAWYER DAY ... Top winners in a costume contest conducted at Arlington Elementary School are shown here with John Kasser, principal of the school who appeared dressed as Injun Joe. Shown in front are (from left) Mickey Catron, 12, as Huck Finn; Pat Tomlinson, 11, as Tom Sawyer; and Robin Plumer, 7, as Becky. In the back with Kasser is Lori Leong, 10, as Aunt Polly. The costume day was held at the school as part of a literature program in which students read Tom Sawyer and other related works. (Press-Herald Photo)

'Y' Sets \$118,000 Goal For Current Campaign

New Population Estimate Shows 134,397 in City

The population of Torrance has reached 134,397 according to the latest estimate released by the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission.

The figure, which is based on statistics available Oct. 1, 1968, is 2,187 higher than the estimate for Oct. 1, 1967. The city is ranked fourth in the county.

Glendale, the third ranked city in the county, had an estimated population of 137,710, a gain of 627 during the year.

THE COUNTY'S estimate of Torrance's population is substantially below the "official" estimate of 139,000 used by the state for apportioning state funds to the city. It is, however, slightly higher than the figures reported after a special census two years ago.

Figures from that special census were never verified, allowing the city to collect its state subventions on the basis of 139,000 residents.

A BREAKDOWN of figures for the city shows 100,345 persons live in the area south of 190th Street, while 34,052 live in the section north of 190th Street. A total of 43,660 dwelling units are now located in the city, the Regional Planning Commission reported.

An estimate released by the Planning Department for the City of Los Angeles shows 11,540 persons were living in the strip area east of Torrance as of last Oct. 1. The area is bounded by Western and Normandie avenues and by 190th Street and Lomita Boulevard.

Total population of the city of Los Angeles was estimated at 2,917,440 by the city department and at 2,850,059 by the Regional Planning Commission.

POPULATION estimates for other area cities, based on the

figures supplied by the Regional Planning Commission, are: Carson, 61,125; Gardena, 44,549; Hawthorne, 49,319; Lawndale, 26,273; Lomita, 20,510; Palms Verdes Estates, 13,315; Redondo Beach, 59,110; Rolling Hills, 2,067; and Rolling Hills Estates, 6,528.

Victim Third Of Year

An 81-year-old woman became the city's third traffic victim Thursday evening when she was struck by a car while crossing Pacific Coast Highway near the Lomita boundary.

Hermine Miller, of 2450 Pacific Coast Hwy., died at Harbor General Hospital at 9:20 p.m., some two and a half hours after the accident.

Mrs. Miller was crossing Pacific Coast Highway at Hillworth Avenue in a marked crosswalk when she was struck, according to Torrance police.

INVESTIGATING officers identified the driver of the late-model sedan as Elnora Weaver Brown, 46, of Los Angeles. She was not held.

Officers said the Brown vehicle was traveling east on Pacific Coast Highway. The driver told officers she did not see Mrs. Miller.

The accident occurred at 6:45 p.m. Mrs. Miller sustained two broken legs and severe head injuries, officers reported. They also said she showed signs of brain damage.

The only damage to the car, officers said, was a broken radio antenna.

Armed Forces Day Chairmen Selected

Committee chairmen and military liaison officers for the annual Torrance Armed Forces Day celebration have been announced by George S. Wing, general chairman of the event for the sponsoring Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce.

Wing said Lt. Col. Conrad T. Von Doran of the Office of the Chief of Information, Department of the Army, has been named as the Department of Defense coordinator.

Other representatives of the Armed Forces who have been

named to help coordinate the mammoth parade and related activities include:

Maj. Robert L. Kingsbury, Army Information Office, for the Army; Lt. Col. Theodore J. Lutz Jr., officer in charge of the Los Angeles Recruiting Station, for the Marine Corps; Lt. Commander George F. DeHart, Los Angeles information officer, for the Navy; and Lt. Col. Roger B. Files, deputy commander of the Los Angeles Air Force Station, for the Air Force.

THE COAST Guard has named Lt. Thomas E. Omri, public information officer for the 11th Coast Guard District, as its representative.

John A. Teske of the Garrett Air Research Manufacturing Co. was named general vice chairman of the event, scheduled here May 16 and 17.

Other chairmen who have accepted appointments include:

Robert H. Vroman, luncheon; John Q. Borgwatt, civic center display; Col. Alfeo L. Bernardi, parade; Homer Morgan, public address systems; John T. Hales, publicity; City Clerk Vernon W. Coil, pyrotechnical display; City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier, reviewing stand; Lt. D. C. Cook, traffic control; James W. Burger, transportation; Chris E.J. Sorensen, judging and trophies; and Joseph M. Doss, special guests.

OTHER Torrance civic leaders who will be assisting committee chairmen include Robert W. Morris, Col. Jack M. Goetz, Robert L. Curry, Dr. J.H. Hull, Casper Clemmer, Clyde W. Fryar, Maj. James C. Lillie, Ralph W. Wortmann, Don Lee, and Press-Herald Editor and Co-publisher Reid L. Bundy.

Military representatives named to assist the military (See PARADE, Page A-2)

Fleeing Suspect Caught

A Torrance man attempting to escape after robbing two adjacent service stations was apprehended a few minutes after the robberies Tuesday night.

Police said they observed Paul Cassone Jr., 23, of 2502 Loftview Dr., running west along the 2900 block of Pacific Coast Highway.

The additional charge of possession of dangerous drugs was added to robbery charges when investigating officers found three yellow pills in Cassone's shirt pocket, police said. The pills are believed to contain a restricted drug.

POLICE arrived at the scene in response to a call from attendant Ken Hughes, 26115 Delos Drive, who reported that the Standard Oil Service Station at 2705 Pacific Coast Hwy. had just been held up.

Hughes told police the suspect forced him to hand over \$30 from station cash boxes, wielding a knife with a six-inch blade.

Shortly after the incident, near midnight, the Wade Johnson Mobile Service Station at 2835 Pacific Coast Hwy. was also robbed to the tune of \$85.

Attendant Donald Fay Shaulis, 700 Harbor Hills Drive, Lomita, told police that suspect Cassone was a former employe of the station and had been fired two days earlier.

Hawthorne Man Named to El Camino College Board

Delmer L. Fox of Hawthorne has been appointed to the El Camino College Board of Trustees, filling the vacancy left by the resignation of John E. Leadbetter, also of Hawthorne.

The new board member will take part in his first meeting as a trustee Monday at 4 p.m. in the board room of the college administration building.

Leadbetter's letter of resignation was accepted "with deep regret" by his fellow trustees, ending five years of service as a member of the college lay board. He was appointed to the board in January, 1964, completing the term of the late Dr. Wallace H. Fraser.

BY PROVISION of the State Educational Code, vacancies are filled by appointment of the board. Fox will serve until June 30, 1971.

Fox, a Hawthorne area funeral director, currently serves on the Hawthorne Parks and Recreation Commission, the Lawndale Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the Hawthorne District Board of the



DELMER L. FOX On College Board

Centinela YMCA.

He also is a member of the Hawthorne Rotary Club and the Elks Lodge 2240 and is past president of the Parents Auxiliary of the Hawthorne Area Youth Band and the Hawthorne High Dad's Club.

Representing the Centinela Valley Union High School District on the El Camino Board, Fox has been a resident of Hawthorne since 1956. He and his wife Mary make their home at 12521 S. Manor Drive, and are the parents of three children — Jim, a sergeant in the U.S. Air Force currently stationed in England; Carolyn, a 1968 graduate of Hawthorne High School who plans to attend El Camino in the fall; and Charles, a senior at Hawthorne High.

In addition to Fox, members of the El Camino College Board of Trustees include William Moss, Jr. of Torrance, board president and representing the Torrance Unified School District; Harry McCandless of Redondo Beach, representing the south Bay Union High School District; Bruce U. Smith of Inglewood, representing the Inglewood Unified School District; and A. J. Neil of El Segundo, representing the El Segundo Unified School District.

Kidney Transplant Completed

A young aircraft worker Wednesday became Harbor General Hospital's fourth kidney transplant patient since Oct. 15, 1968, and the second in five days.

It was confirmed at the Los Angeles County facility, 1000 W. Carson St., that a kidney furnished by an unidentified donor had been substituted for a malfunctioning kidney removed from Gabriel Toro, 21, of 13629 Kornblum, Hawthorne.

Toro had been a patient in the hospital's Hemodialysis Unit since last September on five weekly treatments awaiting the "matching kidney" donor.

Last Friday, Harold Smalley, 23, a Torrance city school electrician, underwent the third transplant in a six-hour operation. Both Toro and Smalley were reported in satisfactory condition at the hospital today. Smalley resides at 5503 Jeffery Drive.



MRS. ELIZABETH RITTMILLER

Pioneer Resident

Party to Honor 100th Birthday

One of the oldest residents of Torrance, Mrs. Elizabeth Rittmiller, will celebrate her 100th birthday Sunday.

In honor of the event, the management of Royalwood Convalescent Hospital is throwing an open house birthday party for the local centenarian, who has lived at the home since it opened in 1965.

Looking back across a century, Mrs. Rittmiller calls it a full life. She was born Feb. 9, 1869, in the Russian town of Bessarabia of German parentage. Mrs. Rittmiller and her late husband Fred came to the United States when she was 22.

THEY SETTLED in Alameda, N.D., where Rittmiller worked as a maintenance man with the school system, and raised a family of seven children.

Although she outlived two of her children, Mrs. Rittmiller can still boast a total of 46 living descendants. The family matriarch has 10 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, and 9 great-great-grandchildren.

The Rittmillers came to Torrance in 1937 when Rittmiller retired, living for many years on Madrid Avenue. Rittmiller died in 1953.

TWO OF the Rittmillers' children also make their homes in Torrance. They are Harold Ritt-

ECT to Meet

The Educational Council of Torrance will meet Monday at 12:15 p.m. at the Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd. James Becker, moderator, will preside at the meeting. "Trends in Home Economics" will be the theme for the monthly program.

Yearly Budget Slashed

Members of the Torrance Family YMCA will launch their 1969 sustaining membership drive next Thursday with a goal of \$118,000.

Television news commentator Robert Abernathy will be the keynote speaker at a kick-off dinner, scheduled at the YMCA, 2900 W. Sepulveda Blvd.

More than 400 volunteers who will conduct the fund drive are expected to attend the dinner meeting.

JOHN KIRK will lead the campaign, which seeks to raise \$118,000 to support activities of the Torrance Family YMCA during the coming year. The current goal is \$4,000 less than the \$122,000 goal set for 1968, but it is \$5,500 higher than the \$112,5500 actually raised in 1968, Kirk said.

"We have pared our budget to the bone, but the only way we can run a YMCA program in this community is to support it," Kirk said. He noted there are 4,015 young people in 255 YMCA clubs at the branch. More than 5,000 Torrance area families are served by the "Y."

KIRK HAS named a dozen community leaders to spearhead the annual campaign. They include Scott Albright, 2512 Sierra St.; Cecil Cwoder, 4813 Vanderhill Road; Ed Escovar, 18908 Patronella Ave.; Frank Kenny, 23445 Evalyn Ave.; Richard Brown, 823 Faysmith Ave.; and Bruce Drummond, 3310 Torrance Blvd.

Other division leaders are Leonard Kane, 1305 Kornblum Ave.; William Poser, 4903 Marjon Ave.; Jim Murphy, 234 Via Pasqual; Dana B. Lemler, 2341 W. 234th St.; R. K. Richardson, 5009 Paseo de las Tortugas; and Marshall Stewart, 261 Via Linda Vista.

Stewart is chairman of the Torrance YMCA Board of Managers and Kane served as general campaign chairman last year.

Solon to Speak At Lincoln Event

Republican State Senator George Deukmejian, Long Beach, will be the keynote speaker Wednesday at a Lincoln Day Dinner to be held in San Pedro.

Sponsored by the 17th Congressional District Republican Central Committee, the dinner will be held at 301 S. Western Ave. at 7:30 p.m.

Assemblyman Robert G. Beverly of Manhattan Beach will be the master of ceremonies. Charles Soderstrom, chairman of the Los Angeles County Republican Central Committee, will introduce special guests.

AMONG those expected to attend the dinner are Congressman Alphonso Bell of the 28th District, now campaigning for the job of mayor of Los Angeles; Laurel Martin, former radio commentator and a board representative of Parents for Better Education; and Joe Blatchford, (See DINNER, Page A-2)



SEN. GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN Lincoln Day Speaker